

STL000011US2

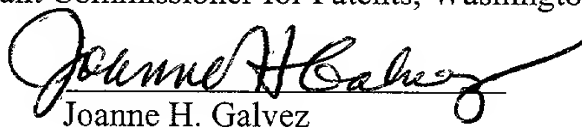
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Andreas Arning, et al. Examiner: ---
Serial No.: To Be Assigned Group Art Unit: ---
Filed: Herewith Docket No.: STL000011US2
Title: USING AN INDEX TO ACCESS A SUBJECT MULTI-DIMENSIONAL
DATABASE

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail Post Office to Addressee (EL665978083US) in an envelope addressed to: BOX NEW PATENT APPLICATION, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on December 21, 2000.


Joanne H. Galvez

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX NEW PATENT APPLICATION
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir/Madam:

In advance of prosecution, please amend the above identified application as follows.

AFTER THE TITLE:

Please add the following section:

--CONTINUATION DATA

This application is related by common inventorship and subject matter and is a continuation of copending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/564,344, entitled "USING AN INDEX TO ACCESS A SUBJECT MULTI-DIMENSIONAL DATABASE", filed on May 4, 2000, by William E. Malloy et. al., with Attorney Docket No. STL000011US1.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-54.

Please add the following new claims:

55. A method of accessing a subject multi-dimensional database stored on a data store connected to a computer, comprising:
receiving an indication of a number of features to be identified;
performing feature identification to identify the indicated number of features; and
creating an index for the subject multi-dimensional database using the identified number of features.

56. The method of claim 55, wherein the index comprises a multi-dimensional database that is derived from the subject multi-dimensional database.

57. The method of claim 55, wherein the number of features to be identified is received as a parameter value.

58. The method of claim 55, wherein feature identification comprises generating an ordered list of multi-dimensional points.

59. The method of claim 55, further comprising creating the index using the list of multi-dimensional points.

60. The method of claim 55, wherein the index stores deviation values for each of the identified number of features.

61. An apparatus for accessing a subject multi-dimensional database, comprising:
a computer having a data store coupled thereto, wherein the data store stores a subject multi-dimensional database;
one or more computer programs, performed by the computer, for receiving an indication of a number of features to be identified, performing feature identification to identify the

indicated number of features, and creating an index for the subject multi-dimensional database using the identified number of features.

62. The apparatus of claim 61, wherein the index comprises a multi-dimensional database that is derived from the subject multi-dimensional database.

63. The apparatus of claim 61, wherein the number of features to be identified is received as a parameter value.

64. The apparatus of claim 61, wherein feature identification comprises generating an ordered list of multi-dimensional points.

65. The apparatus of claim 61, further comprising creating the index using the list of multi-dimensional points.

66. The apparatus of claim 61, wherein the index stores deviation values for each of the identified number of features.

67. An article of manufacture comprising a program storage medium readable by a computer and embodying one or more instructions executable by the computer to access a subject multi-dimensional database stored on a data store connected to the computer, comprising:

receiving an indication of a number of features to be identified;
performing feature identification to identify the indicated number of features; and
creating an index for the subject multi-dimensional database using the identified number of features.

68. The article of manufacture of claim 67, wherein the index comprises a multi-dimensional database that is derived from the subject multi-dimensional database.

69. The article of manufacture of claim 67, wherein the number of features to be identified is received as a parameter value.

70. The article of manufacture of claim 67, wherein feature identification comprises generating an ordered list of multi-dimensional points.

71. The article of manufacture of claim 67, further comprising creating the index using the list of multi-dimensional points.

72. The article of manufacture of claim 67, wherein the index stores deviation values for each of the identified number of features.

REMARKS

Claims 1-54 have been canceled, and claims 55-72 have been added. Claims 55-72 are pending. The amendments to the claims are fully supported by the specification as filed. No new matter has been incorporated by the present amendment.

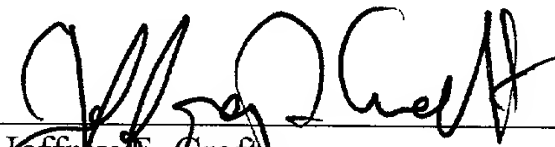
Preliminary to a first action in this continuation application, the Applicants request that these amendments be entered. These amended claims do not involve any new matter or objectionable changes. When the Examiner takes this application up for action, the Examiner is requested to take the foregoing into account.

Should the Examiner believe minor matters still remain that can be resolved in a telephone interview, the Examiner is urged to call the below-signed attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

PRETTY & SCHROEDER, P.C.

Dated: Dec. 21, 2000

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